

SITING COUNCIL

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KATHERINE KENNEDY

HEARING RE: ALGONQUIN GAS & ISLANDER EAST  
APRIL 12, 2002 (10:01 AM)

1                   Verbatim proceedings of a hearing  
2 before the State of Connecticut Siting Council in the  
3 matter of Algonquin Gas Transmission Company and  
4 Islander East Company, LLC for a Certificate of  
5 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, held at  
6 Central Connecticut State University, Institute of  
7 Industrial and Engineering Technologies, on April 12,  
8 2002 at 10:01 AM, at which time the parties were  
9 represented as hereinbefore set forth

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12                   CHAIRMAN MORTIMER A. GELSTON: I call  
13 this session to order this morning at 10:00 o'clock.

14                   My name is Mortimer A. Gelston and I'm  
15 Chairman of the Connecticut Siting Council. I guess my  
16 voice is going to go

17                   Other members of the Council here are  
18 Brian Emerick, designee for Commissioner Rocque,  
19 Department of Environmental Protection; Gerald F.  
20 Heffernan, designee for Commissioner Downes, Department  
21 of Public Utility Control; Mr. Wilensky hasn't joined  
22 us yet; Brian O'Neill; Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.; Philip T.  
23 Ashton; and Colin Tait.

24                   Members of the staff here today -- my

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1 mortality occurring for some of the organisms

2 MR. SNOOK: Anchor scarring, what effect  
3 would anchor holes have on the benthic community in the  
4 near-shore environment?

5 DR. ZAJAC: It would depend on the size  
6 of the actual anchor hole and the depth to which that  
7 anchor hole and the kind of sediments and where they  
8 would occur. The deeper the hole, then there is the  
9 potential for it becoming a sediment trap. And  
10 depending on seasonal conditions there may be some  
11 within the deepest part of those holes it may be  
12 physiologically stressed to the organisms. However, as  
13 we move up the sides of those anchor holes, those  
14 actually can become active habitat for a number of  
15 organisms because it does add dimensionality to the  
16 system. Again, it depends on the depth of the hole and  
17 the kinds of sediments there are and potentially  
18 seasonal conditions

19 MR. SNOOK: In terms of impacts to  
20 shellfish communities from a project of this nature,  
21 would most of those impacts occur in the near-shore  
22 area?

23 DR. ZAJAC: Well, impacts of course are  
24 going to be related to where the shellfish are. And to